IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/727,566

Applicant : STAEHLER et al Filed : December 5, 2003

TC/A.U. : 1639

Examiner : Mark Lance Shibuya

Docket No. : 2923-593 Customer No. : 06449 Confirmation No. : 7975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith information that the Office may wish to consider in examination of the subject application. Materials submitted for consideration are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. The references were cited in the parallel European application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

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